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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/628,669	07/28/2000	Wayne Samuel Davis	15444A	3656

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, KHIEM M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 01/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/628,669

Applicant(s)

DAVIS, WAYNE SAMUEL

Examiner

Khiem Nguyen

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AW

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 September 2302 and 10 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26, 38-42 and 47-54 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18, 23-26, 38-42 and 47-54 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 19-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

**Reissue Applications**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 19-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Roberts (3,760,335) in view of Henschen et al. (3,663,930), Chau et al. (5,190,480) and Martens (4,582,386).

Roberts discloses mateable electrical connectors comprising a first and a second electrical connectors having mateable contacts and at least one first power contacts 58' mateable with at least one second power contacts 50; the first power contacts having opposed contact fingers having resiliently deflectable bowed portions which extend in a cantilevered manner, and the second power contact having opposed contact surfaces; wherein the opposed contact fingers of the first power contacts are received between the opposed contact surfaces of the second power contacts such that the contact fingers resiliently deflect inwardly and exert pressure on the opposed contact surfaces. It is noted that the first power contacts of Roberts, the fingers are not extending from a body and Roberts lacks to disclose separate signal contacts from the power contacts and in which the power contacts are larger or more massive than the signal contacts

as substantially set forth by applicant's invention. Henschen et al. shows contact contact terminal structure 2 having resilient fingers extending from a single body 26, and Chau et al. and Martens both disclose the use of signal contacts in combination with power contacts in their connector housings and that their power contact are generally larger or more massive than their signal contacts.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to construct the first power contacts of Roberts with fingers extending from a body in view of Henschen et al., and to provide signal contacts in combination with at least one set of power contacts for the connector of Roberts in which the power contacts are larger or more massive than the signal contacts in view of the teachings Chau et al. and Martens. The use of contact structures having resilient fingers extending from a single body is old and well known, and the use of larger power contacts would increase the current carrying capacity as is well known in the art (see Chau et al., column 4, lines 10-18).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1-18, 23-26, 38-42, 47-54 are allowed.

***Response to Arguments***

4. Applicant's arguments filed with the amendments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding applicant's argument that there is no support for the connector contacts in Roberts and Henschen et al. to be used as power contacts. However, it is

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submitted that the disclosure of the above prior art also do not mentioned that their contacts cannot be used as power contacts. It is submitted that the contacts of the above prior art are easily usable as power contacts, since, the use of power contacts are old and well known. Further, it is known that telecommunication cable connector also utilize power contacts. Regarding the Henschen reference. It is used to show a contact configuration. Nevertheless, the contacts of Henschen et al. could also be used as power contacts and not merely limited by dimensions. Regarding, the secondary references to Martins and Chau et al. It is submitted that their combination is proper, since, they merely used to show that the use of power and signal contacts in a connector is old and well known in the connector art. The mere fact that these are different types of connectors is not significantly critical, since, it is known to use power and signal contacts in various different types of connectors and systems.

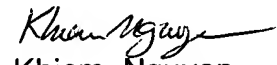
Finally, In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., the power contacts are comprised of contact fingers cantilevered from a base section) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khiem Nguyen whose telephone number is 703 308 1738. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached on 703 308 2710. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 308 0956.

  
Khiem Nguyen  
Primary Examiner  
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